What should I do when my children will not complete their chores?

Help your children begin their chores and follow a routine. Have your children complete the same chores each day or week. Model the behavior and lead by example. Make sure the chores assigned to your children are appropriate for their development and ability.

Let your children make a list of chores to complete. Have your children put a star or check mark next to the list of chores, once they are complete. Do not give your children too many chores to complete at once. Provide your children with more than enough time to perform the chores, and do not expect perfection.

Have your children complete their chores right after school or before they watch TV or go out with friends. Reward your children for completing their chores. Rewards include verbal praise, a kiss, watching TV and playing their favorite game.

When your children do not complete their chores, explain what they were supposed to do and why. Put a chart on the refrigerator with chores for the week. For example: I, William, will set the table for 4 days in a row before watching TV. When I accomplish this, I earn a chore free day!

Explain to your children that chores not completed will have to be completed at other times, such as playtime, TV time, or weekends. Have everyone in the family perform chores at the same time in order to help your children to remember to complete their chores.